

FEB 1 1 2015

Darol H. M. Carr, Esq. Farr, Farr, Emerich, Hackett & Carr, P.A. 99 Nesbit Street Punta Gorda, FL 33950

RE:

MUR 6712

Kreegel for Congress

Dear Mr. Carr:

On January 8, 2013, the Federal Election Commission notified your client, Kreegel for Congress and Alan Childers, in his official capacity as treasurer (the "Committee"), of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. On February 10, 2015, based upon the information contained in the complaint, and information provided by the Committee, the Commission decided to dismiss the complaint and close its file in this matter. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter on February 10, 2015.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66,132 (Dec. 14, 2009). The Factual and Legal Analysis, which explains the Commission's finding, is enclosed for your information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

General Counsel

BY:

Jeff S. Jordan
Assistant General Counsel
Complaints Examination and

Legal Administration

Enclosure
Factual and Legal Analysis

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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RESPONDENTS: Kreegel for Congress

MUR 6712

and Alan Childers as Treasurer

I. INTRODUCTION

This matter was generated by a complaint filed by Revolvis Consulting, Inc. on January 4, 2013, alleging violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act")² and Commission regulations by Kreegel for Congress and Alan Childers in his official capacity as treasurer. It was scored as a relatively low-rated matter under the Enforcement Priority System, a system by which the Commission uses formal scoring criteria as a basis to allocate its resources and decide which matters to pursue.

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Factual Background

The Complainant in this matter, Revolvis Consulting, Inc. ("Revolvis"), alleges that Kreegel for Congress and Alan Childers, in his official capacity as treasurer, (collectively, the "Committee")³ violated the Act and Commission regulations by failing to report a debt in the amount of \$49,762.63 for consulting services that Revolvis rendered to the Committee. Compl. at 2. Complainant asserts that "during the time period covered by the [2012] October Quarterly Report," Revolvis entered into an "oral agreement" with the Committee to provide campaign consulting services in exchange for payment. *Id.* at 2, 3. Complainant states that the debt was

The current treasurer of Kreegel for Congress is Alan Childers. See Amended Statement of Organization, dated January 7, 2014. Vicki Potts was the Committee's treasurer of record during the time period at issue.

On September 1, 2014, the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), was transferred from Title 2 of the United States Code to new Title 52 of the United States Code.

The Committee is the principal campaign committee of Paige Vanier Kreegel, unsuccessful 2012 primary election candidate for Florida's 17th congressional district.

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Id.

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1 incurred and "remained outstanding" during the 2012 October Quarterly reporting period, and

2 that the Committee failed to disclose the debt on its 2012 October Quarterly Report. Id. at 3.

Attached to the Complaint is a copy of a "Proposal for Consulting Services," signed by

4 Jason Cabel Roe, president of Revolvis, and dated October 25, 2012. Id., Ex. B. Also attached

to the Complaint are copies of two apparent collection letters to the Committee from counsel for

Revolvis. Id., Ex. C. One letter, dated November 30, 2012, requests the remittance of

7 \$24,775.63 and includes several invoices for services allegedly rendered by Revolvis on behalf

8 of the Committee. Id. The letter indicates that the Committee has "not denied" the amount that

is due, and that the Committee has requested that Revolvis settle for a lesser amount "by

accepting the remaining funds left in the [campaign's] account." The second letter, dated

December 17, 2012, requests the payment of \$24,987.00 and includes a December 13, 2012

invoice for services allegedly rendered by Revolvis on behalf of the Committee. *Id.* Both letters

state that the outstanding balances have not been paid "despite repeated requests." Id.

In its Response, the Committee states that it is aware of "claims" made by Revolvis on its behalf, but that "said claims were disputed and otherwise categorically denied as due and owing." Resp. at 2. The Committee asserts that Vickie Potts, the treasurer at the time of the alleged activity, was "unaware" that Commission regulations require political committees to report disputed debts. *Id.* The Committee states that, upon learning of the Complaint in this matter, it promptly amended its disclosure reports to include "other debts that were disputed."

This document was not signed by a representative of the Committee, and contains a date subsequent to when the alleged services were provided. *Id.*, Ex. B.

Included with the November 30, 2012 letter is apparent email correspondence between Kreegel and a representative of Revolvis, in which Kreegel noted that "there are vastly more invoices [from Revolvis] than there is cash in the campaign account to pay for them." *Id*.

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B. Legal Analysis

2 Under the Act and Commission regulations, political committees are required to continuously report outstanding debts and obligations owed by the committee until such time as 3 the debt or obligation is extinguished. 52 U.S.C. § 30104(b)(8) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(8)); 4 11 C.F.R. §§ 104.3(d), 104.11(a). If a debt is disputed, a political committee is required to 5 6 disclose any amount the committee admits it owes and the amount the creditor claims is owed 7 until the dispute is resolved. 11 C.F.R. § 116.10(a). 8 The Committee's original 2012 October Quarterly Report does not disclose any debts 9 owed to Revolvis; however, its Amended 2012 October Quarterly Report discloses \$27,275.63 in 10 total outstanding debt to Revolvis as having been incurred during the October Quarterly filing 11 period. See 2012 October Quarterly Report, filed October 13, 2012; Amended 2012 October 12 Ouarterly Report at 69-71, filed January 24, 2013. The Amended October Quarterly Report also discloses a total outstanding debt of \$24,987.00 to "Magma Creative, Inc." for services rendered 13 during the October Quarterly filing period. See Amended 2012 October Quarterly Report at 68-14 69. Moreover, the Committee's subsequent filings to date continue to disclose \$27,275.63 total 15 debt owed to Revolvis and \$24,987.00 total debt owed to Magma Creative, Inc.; however, none 16 of the transactions are classified as "disputed." 17 18 In light of the remedial action taken by the Committee in amending its reports shortly 19 after being notified of the Complaint, and the Commission's priorities and resources, relative to 20 other matters pending on the Enforcement Docket, the Commission dismisses this matter

pursuant to its prosecutorial discretion under Heckler v. Chaney, 470 U.S. 821 (1985).

This appears to be the same amount itemized on the December 13, 2012 invoice from Revolvis, which indicates that \$24,987.00 is owed to Revolvis for "Television and Radio Production Services Provided by Magma Creative." See Compl., Ex. C.